

REMARKS

Applicants' representative would like to thank Examiner Sayoc for the courtesies extended during a telephonic interview on February 18, 2005. During the interview, Applicants' representative outlined differences between the present application and the cited art of record, noting that the art of record fails to teach or suggest a control block mounted on a compressor shell capable of storing and communicating compressor configuration data to a system controller.

Claims 18-30, 32-34, and 36-45 are now pending in the application. By this amendment, Claims 18-20, 23, 24-26, 29-30, 32-34, 36-39, and 41-43 have been amended, Claims 31 and 35 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, and Claims 44 and 45 have been added. The basis for these amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification, claims, and drawings originally filed. No new matter has been added. The preceding amendments and the following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action and are believed to place the application in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

SPECIFICATION

Applicants have added Paragraph [0000.5] that claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/515,802, filed February 29, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,302,654.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 18-23, 25-40, 42 and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Centers et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,471,486) in view of Culp, III et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,975,854), and Applicants' admitted prior art.

Claims 18-23 and 25-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Centers et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,471,486), and Applicants' admitted prior art, as applied above, and further in view of Suzuki (U.S. Pat. No. 5,119,466).

Claims 24 and 41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Centers et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,471,486) , as modified by Culp, III et al., as applied to Claims 31 and 35, and further in view of Friedland (U.S. Pat. No. 5,423,190) and Sunaga et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,035,661).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot as independent Claims 31 and 35 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants submit that this rejection is similarly moot with respect to pending Claims 18-30, 32-34, and 36-43 as Claims 18-30, 32-34, and 36-43 respectively depend from now-cancelled independent Claims 31 and 35. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

Independent Claim 44 calls for a compressor assembly including a shell, a compression mechanism disposed in the shell, a motor driving the compression mechanism, and a control block including memory operable to store compressor event

history data, compressor model type, compressor operating limits, and compressor set points. See Specification at 16, ln. 10-27 and pg. 14, lns. 18-25.

Similarly, independent Claim 45 calls for a compressor assembly including a shell, a compression mechanism, a motor driving the compression mechanism, a control block mounted on the compressor shell and including a microprocessor and a memory, a plurality of sensors monitoring compressor operating parameters and in communication with the control block, and a system master in communication with the control block. In addition, independent Claim 45 recites that the microprocessor controls communication between the control block and the system master and the memory stores compressor event history data, compressor model type, compressor operating limits, and compressor set points. See Specification at 16, ln. 10-27 and pg. 14, lns. 18-25.

In this manner, the present application discloses a compressor assembly having a system controller and a control block mounted on a shell of a compressor. The control block includes a microprocessor that controls communication between the control block and the system controller and memory capable of storing compressor configuration data and control data such as compressor event history data, compressor model type, compressor operating limits, and compressor set points. The control block is able to transmit the stored compressor configuration data and control data to the system controller upon demand. See Specification at pg. 14, lns. 18-25 and pg. 15, lns. 4-8. The art of record cited by the Examiner in rejecting now-cancelled Claims 31 and 35 fails to teach or suggest such a relationship.

The Examiner, in rejecting now-cancelled independent Claims 31 and 35, relied primarily on a combination of Centers (U.S. Pat. No. 6,471,486 B1) and Culp (U.S. Pat. No. 5,975,854). Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Centers and Culp fails to teach or suggest a microprocessor that controls communication between the control block and the system master and a memory that stores compressor event history data, compressor model type, compressor operating limits, and compressor set points.

Centers teaches an electronic control system (1004) for a compressor that can be used for fine tuning, retrieval, or evaluation of “unload and load pressures, auto/dual timeout values, and multiple compressor package configurations.” See Centers at Col. 25, Ins. 58-66. In this regard, Centers is at least deficient in teaching or suggesting storing compressor configuration data such as compressor model type. Culp is similarly deficient in this regard.

The Examiner admits that the combined teachings of Centers and Culp fail to disclose an electronic control system “containing compressor configuration information including serial number of the compressor, a refrigerant code for the compressor, and an oil code for the compressor. See Office Action mailed October 18, 2004 at pg. 8. The Examiner combines the teachings of Centers and Culp with Friedland, which teaches use of a bar code to identify the compressor. See Friedland at Col. 2, Ins. 41-51. Applicants respectfully submit that while compressor information may be obtained by scanning a bar code, that a bar code is not memory and certainly not memory operable to store compressor event history data, compressor model type, compressor operating limits, and compressor set points. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit

that the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest a memory that stores compressor model type, compressor operating limits, and compressor set points.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 44 and 45, as well as Claims 18-30, 32-34, and 36-43, respectively dependent therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

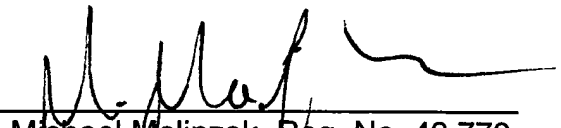
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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